

**Package to ITI**

297. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide a package to ITI to bail out the PSU from losses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Presently, there is no proposal to provide any package to ITI to bail out from losses. However, Government is processing the proposal for payment of Rs. 252 crore to ITI for paying the outstanding statutory dues and converting Rs. 100 crores towards VRS to interest free loan simultaneously writing it off from the Government account.

**Quality of mobile service in Assam**

298. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the fact that the BSNL mobile service is turning bad to worst in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of private mobile operators in Assam and the way they are helping in enhancement of mobile connectivity in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, the mobile service of BSNL is satisfactory in Assam. As per the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the performance report of Cellular Mobile service in respect of Assam circle for the quarter ending September, 2006, BSNL is meeting the benchmarks for all the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters. Relevant portion of the report is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) There are four private mobile operators viz Reliance, Hutch, Bharti and Dishnet and one PSU (BSNL) in Assam. Details of quarterly subscriber base from March, 2006 onwards and January, 2007 are given in Statement-II.